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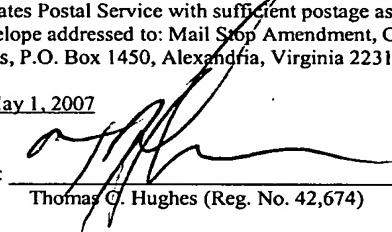
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Michael P. Whitman et al.
 Serial No. : 10/785,672
 Filed : February 23, 2004
 For : SURGICAL CUTTING AND STAPLING DEVICE
 Group Art Unit : 3721
 Examiner : Gloria R. Weeks
 Confirmation No. : 2683

Mail Stop Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

Date: May 1, 2007

Signature: 
 Thomas C. Hughes (Reg. No. 42,674)

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

SIR:

In response to the Office Action of February 1, 2007, transmitted herewith is an Amendment for filing in the above-identified application.

Applicants believe that no fees are due. However, if any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized, as appropriate and/or necessary, to charge any such fees or credit any overpayment to Kenyon & Kenyon LLP Deposit Account No. 11-0600. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully Submitted
 KENYON & KENYON LLP

Dated: May 1, 2007
 By: 
 Thomas C. Hughes (Reg. No. 42,674)
 One Broadway
 New York, NY 10004
 Tel: (212) 425-7200
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CUSTOMER NO. 26646



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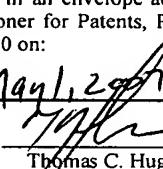
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Thomas C. Hughes (Reg. 42,674)

AMENDMENT

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated February 1, 2007, please amend the above-captioned application without prejudice as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

05/08/2007 HLE333 00000018 110600 10785672

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